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Safe Driving Urged During Labor Day Weekend

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard is asking motorists to drive with extra care on South Dakota highways during the long Labor Day travel weekend.

Four people died and 78 others were injured on South Dakota roads during the last two Labor Day weekends. Two of the four fatal crashes were alcohol-related.

“Most crashes are preventable,” Gov. Daugaard said. “Designating a sober driver and making it a firm practice never to drink and drive would greatly increase the chances of having a safe trip and an enjoyable holiday weekend.”

The South Dakota Highway Patrol and Office of Highway Safety are participating with more than 60 local law enforcement agencies in a high-visibility enforcement program during the Labor Day weekend. The goal isn’t to make arrests but to raise awareness of the need for safe travel habits.

Gov. Daugaard said travelers must take personal responsibility for their safety and the safety of loved ones and other motorists.

“That’s good advice any time you travel, and it is especially important during this Labor Day weekend when so many motorists are on the highways,” he said. “Designating a sober driver, using seatbelts on every trip and paying attention to speed limits and road conditions will make our highways much safer for holiday travel.”